

CLAIMS

1. A computing device including a system thereon for allowing rendering of protected digital content on the computing device, the content including a type of content to be rendered on a corresponding rendering device coupled to the computing device, the computing device also including a section therein for receiving the type of content in a non-protected form, the section including memory for storing the received content, the memory being configured to be write-only except with regard to the section.
2. A computing device including a digital rights management (DRM) system thereon for allowing rendering of protected digital content on the computing device, the content including video content to be displayed on a monitor coupled to the computing device, the computing device also including a video section therein for receiving the content and for producing a video signal to be sent to the monitor based on the received content, the video section including video memory for storing the received content, the video memory being configured to be write-only except with regard to the video section.
3. The computing device of claim 2 wherein the video section is a video card.
4. The computing device of claim 2 wherein any entity external to the video section cannot read the received content stored in the video memory.
5. The computing device of claim 2 wherein the video memory is video RAM.

6. The computing device of claim 2 wherein the video memory is configured to be write-only only with regard to rights-protected digital content allowed to be rendered by the DRM system.

7. The computing device of claim 6 wherein the content is accompanied by a signal to the video section to implement the write-only configuration for the content.

8. The computing device of claim 6 wherein the write-only configuration is implemented in the video memory by creating at least one write-only buffer in such video memory.

9. The computing device of claim 8 wherein each write-only buffer is a bitmapped secondary video surface to be displayed over a primary surface.

10. The computing device of claim 8 wherein the video section clears each write-only buffer upon freeing same.

11. The computing device of claim 2 wherein the video memory is configured to be write-only with regard to rights-protected digital content allowed to be rendered by the DRM system and also with regard to other digital content.

12. The computing device of claim 2 wherein the video section further includes an authentication device for authenticating to the DRM system that the video memory is configured to be write-only except with regard to the video section.

13. The computing device of claim 12 wherein the authentication device comprises a feature legally protected as intellectual property controlled by

a controlling entity, whereby a manufacture who wishes to manufacture the video section must obtain a license from the controlling entity to practice the legally protected feature and as a license condition must agree to provide the video section with the video memory configured to be write-only except with regard to the video section.

14. The computing device of claim 13 wherein the legally protected feature is in a form that may be presented to the DRM system.

15. The computing device of claim 13 wherein the legally protected feature is in a form that may present a token to the DRM system.

16. The computing device of claim 12 wherein the authentication device comprises a token as obtained from an authentication entity that is to be presented to the DRM system, whereby a manufacture who wishes to manufacture the video section must obtain the token from the authentication entity and as a condition thereof must agree to provide the video section with the video memory configured to be write-only except with regard to the video section.

17. The computing device of claim 16 wherein the presented token is a certificate and is reviewed by the DRM system against a regularly updated certificate list, and wherein the DRM system decides whether to trust the video section based thereon, at least in part, whereby if the manufacturer reneges on the agreement by manufacturing the video section with non-write-only video memory, the certificate list is updated to reflect that the reviewed certificate is not to be honored by the DRM system.

18. A section on a computing device, the computing device including a system thereon for allowing rendering of protected digital content on the computing device, the content including a type of content to be rendered on a corresponding rendering device coupled to the computing device, the section of

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the computing device for receiving the type of content in a non-protected form, the section including memory for storing the received content, the memory being configured to be write-only except with regard to the section.

19. A video section on a computing device, the computing device including a digital rights management (DRM) system thereon for allowing rendering of protected digital content on the computing device, the content including video content to be displayed on a monitor coupled to the computing device, the video section for receiving the content and for producing a video signal to be sent to the monitor based on the received content, the video section including video memory for storing the received content, the video memory being configured to be write-only except with regard to the video section.

20. The video section of claim 19 comprising a video card.

21. The video section of claim 19 wherein any entity external to the video section cannot read the received content stored in the video memory.

22. The video section of claim 19 wherein the video memory is video RAM.

23. The video section of claim 19 wherein the video memory is configured to be write-only only with regard to rights-protected digital content allowed to be rendered by the DRM system.

24. The video section of claim 23 wherein the video section receives a signal as an accompaniment to the content to implement the write-only configuration for the content.

25. The video section of claim 23 wherein the write-only configuration is implemented in the video memory by creating at least one write-only buffer in such video memory.

26. The video section of claim 25 wherein each write-only buffer is a bitmapped secondary video surface to be displayed over a primary surface.

27. The video section of claim 25 wherein the video section clears each write-only buffer upon freeing same.

28. The video section of claim 19 wherein the video memory is configured to be write-only with regard to rights-protected digital content allowed to be rendered by the DRM system and also with regard to other digital content.

29. The video section of claim 19 further including an authentication device for authenticating to the DRM system that the video memory is configured to be write-only except with regard to the video section.

30. The video section of claim 29 wherein the authentication device comprises a feature legally protected as intellectual property controlled by a controlling entity, whereby a manufacture who wishes to manufacture the video section must obtain a license from the controlling entity to practice the legally protected feature and as a license condition must agree to provide the video section with the video memory configured to be write-only except with regard to the video section.

31. The video section of claim 30 wherein the legally protected feature is in a form that may be presented to the DRM system.

32. The video section of claim 30 wherein the legally protected feature is in a form that may present a token to the DRM system.

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33. The video section of claim 29 wherein the authentication device comprises a token as obtained from an authentication entity that is to be presented to the DRM system, whereby a manufacture who wishes to manufacture the video section must obtain the token from the authentication entity and as a condition thereof must agree to provide the video section with the video memory configured to be write-only except with regard to the video section.

34. The video section of claim 33 wherein the presented token is a certificate and is reviewed by the DRM system against a regularly updated certificate list, and wherein the DRM system decides whether to trust the video section based thereon, at least in part, whereby if the manufacturer reneges on the agreement by manufacturing the video section with non-write-only video memory, the certificate list is updated to reflect that the reviewed certificate is not to be honored by the DRM system.

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